LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6448 NOTE PREPARED: Feb 5, 2003
BILL NUMBER: SB 266 BILL AMENDED: Feb 4, 2003

SUBJECT: Point-of-Sale License System.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Skillman

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State & Local

 $\begin{array}{cc} \underline{X} & DEDICATED \\ & FEDERAL \end{array}$

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> (Amended) This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources to implement an automated point-of-sale hunting, fishing, and trapping licensing system. It requires that certain license information is confidential. It provides for funding of the system. The bill provides for bonding of agents until the earlier of the date on which the agent begins to participate in the automated point of sale system or July 1, 2005. The bill also makes conforming amendments. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Natural Resources Study Committee.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2003; July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill establishes a Point-of-Sale system for dispensing hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. The Department of Natural Resources estimates the cost of the system to be approximately \$5 M to initiate and run for three to five years. The bill proposes that no more than 25%, or \$4.9M, of the balance in the Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License Trust Fund be transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Fund for the purpose of implementing the Point-of-Sale system. This bill also designates the annual transfer of interest, plus 2.5% of the Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License Trust Fund, to the Fish and Wildlife Fund for the purpose of maintaining the Point-of-Sale system. Actual transfers for FY 2001 and FY 2002 were \$461,514 and \$586,092, respectively. For FY 2003 it is estimated that \$425,953 will be transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Fund. However, the estimate does not take into account the \$4.9 M one-time transfer, after which the annual transfer should decrease. The Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License Trust Fund balance is \$19.5M as of October 31, 2002.

Explanation of State Revenues: This proposal could potentially lead to increased license sales as the system makes purchasing a license faster and more accessible.

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<u>Explanation of Local Expenditures:</u> Administrative costs for clerks of the circuit courts should decrease because the Point-of-Sale system will eliminate the need for reporting of licenses sold by them to the Department of Natural Resources.

Explanation of Local Revenues: The \$0.25 fee clerks retain from selling a hunting, fishing, or trapping license is not affected by this proposal.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected: Clerks of Circuit Courts.

Information Sources: Department of Natural Resources.

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